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MICHAEL B. JORDAN WANTS YOU TO EAT UP

PAGE 07

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BOSTON Thursday, January 30, 2014 www.metro.us | t:MetroBOS | f:MetroBoston

Controversial call. The U.S. Attorney General has until Friday to reveal if he will seek the death penalty in the case against accused Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

Varied views. Experts expect the AG will recommend death, but a poll shows residents favor life without parole if he's convicted.

PAGE 02

A life-or-death DECISION

Music. Boyd finds life outside of Incubus, in the Sea

PAGE 14

Dating. Gentlemen, can we give you directions downtown?

PAGE 13

Sports. The Super Bowl is full of Patriots story lines

PAGE 20

Above, Tsarnaev is depicted in a court sketch during his July 2013 arraignment. Three days after two homemade bombs rocked the Marathon finish line, top right, Tsarnaev was discovered hiding and injured in a dry docked boat in Watertown, bottom right. / SKETCH BY JANE FLAVELL COLLINS, PHOTOS FROM GETTY IMAGES

Holder closes in on a death penalty decision

Capital punishment. Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev will soon know if prosecutors will pursue the death penalty.

Execution on the horizon?

Massachusetts has not executed anyone since 1947.

- The Boston Bar Association, which represents more than 10,000 lawyers, released an internal study earlier this month taking a strong stand against federal capital punishment.
- Contributing factors in the death-penalty decision making process include the seriousness of the crime, the number of victims, the suspect's prior criminal history and his acceptance of responsibility, among others.
- Mitigating factors are also considered, like whether Tsarnaev, age 19 at the time, was controlled by his older brother, Tamerlan, who has been labeled the mastermind in the attack.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder said he will decide by Friday whether to seek the death penalty in federal court for Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, who is accused of carrying out the deadly terror attack alongside his late brother.

Authorities say, Tsarnaev, then 19, and his brother Tamerlan planted two homemade bombs near the Boylston Street finish line of the April 15 marathon, killing three and injuring more than 260 others.

Three days later, the pair allegedly shot and killed Massachusetts Institute of Technology police officer Sean Collier, prompting a massive day-long manhunt that ended with the death of Tamerlan, 26, and the capture of Dzhokhar, who was found hiding and injured in a dry docked boat.

Bostonians were asked

Penalty poll

A statewide poll conducted by The Boston Globe in September showed that a life sentence was endorsed by both genders, across all education levels, and among white, black and Hispanic respondents.

Source: Globe

Tsarnaev has pleaded not guilty to 30 charges, including 17 that carry the potential of the death penalty. A trial date has not been set.

"Looking at [Holder's] track record, I could very well see him OKing the U.S. Attorney's request to seek the death penalty in this case," said Chris Dearborn, associate clinical professor of law at Suffolk University.

The tricky part, according to Dearborn, would be getting an entire jury on board.

"It may be harder to find a jury to consider capital punishment. The jury would have to be found impartial by a judge. Questions submitted would likely include, 'Would you be able to consider imposing a death penalty at the sentencing phase?' If jurors say, 'No, I'm morally opposed to that,' they'd get kicked off," said Dearborn.

Massachusetts, which no longer practices the death penalty, has not carried out an execution for 66 years.

By the numbers

33%

Thirty-three percent of those questioned favored the death penalty for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

57%

The majority — 57 percent — believed he should get life without parole.

704

The poll included answers from 704 randomly selected Bostonians.

61%

Sixty-one percent of Democrats favored life without parole, while 49 percent of Republicans supported it.

Regardless, if convicted, Tsarnaev's execution could still be carried out within the state, but would likely be put off by a lengthy appeal process, Dearborn said.

"If I were a betting person, I'd say it's likely that the feds are going to seek the death penalty," said James Rooney, president of Mass. Citizens Against the Death Penalty.

Founded in 1928, the group is the oldest continuously active anti-death penalty organization in the nation, and has staged protests against the prospect of executing convicted killer Gary Lee Sampson, a drifter from Abington who went on a killing spree in 2001.

"I think [federal prosecutors] fear standing up in front of the press and saying, 'No, we're not seeking the death penalty,' and having to explain why," said Rooney.

"This was in a big public arena. Anybody could have been there, and a lot of people were. It affects people in a way that a lot of crime doesn't. Still, the public hasn't been jumping around and saying, 'We've got to kill this 19-year-old.'"

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
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Top 3

What's trending online at Metro.us

1 'Chili Peppers parody makes Super Bowl magic with "Abracadbralifornia"'

2 'VIDEO: Guy learns to dance in one year'

3 'VIDEO: New Yorkers try to explain memes'

Today's tweet

"Don't even care about the cold today. This sunshine is amazing! #boston #desperately seekingsun"

@LindaRcampos on her sunny outlook

Plea for help one year after skate shop owner killed

More info. Shawn Clark was gunned down a year ago after two men walked into his Malden shop.

RYAN
NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

On the one-year anniversary of the fatal shooting of popular Malden skateboard shop owner Shawn Clark, authorities renewed their call for the public's help as the suspected gunmen have not been caught.

"We have been working diligently since that day to identify those two individuals who were actually captured on the videotape from that shop," Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan said on Wednesday.

Ryan refused to discuss any new details in the case, saying that it was a "very active, ongoing investigation."

Clark, 39, the owner of Patriot Skateboards, was fatally shot following a struggle with two men who walked into his shop on the afternoon of Jan. 29, 2013, authorities have said.

Ryan said that investigators are working with experts to enhance surveillance video from the shop.

Clark, a former Marine who lived with his wife and two children in Saugus, was active in the Malden community and hosted various events at the city's skate park. Clark's family and friends, and others, have raised $60,000 for a reward for information leading to the arrest of his killers.

Anyone with information can call Malden detectives at 781-397-7181.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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Home burns in Cambridge

Fire crews from Cambridge and Somerville fought a two-alarm fire at a home on Meacham Road in Cambridge late Wednesday morning. Firefighters were called to the three-family home just after 10: 30 a.m. The home was under construction and there were no injuries reported. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

Get walking

Report: Hub third best in nation for public transit

A new survey released this week by Walk Score ranked Boston as the third best city in the country for public transit behind New York City and San Francisco. The ranking uses a population-weighted methodology and is based on the average city resident's access to public transportation. METRO

MBTA crime

Man accused of sexual misconduct

For the fourth time in as many weeks, a man is accused of sexual deviancy on the T. Salah Koutaiby, 49, of East Boston was arrested at Hynes Station Tuesday for allegedly exposing himself and masturbating while on the platform. METRO

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Marathon survivor. Jeff Bauman writes memoir, meets President Obama

Jeff Bauman became a symbol of a national tragedy after a photograph of him, legless and bloodied in a wheelchair at the scene of the Boston Marathon bombing, circled the world.

Now he is turning into a symbol of resilience: learning to walk again, making a featured appearance at President Barack Obama's State of the Union address and writing a memoir.

Bauman, who lost both legs above the knee, was among first lady Michelle Obama's guests at the State of the Union on Tuesday night, along with Carlos Arredondo, the man in the white cowboy hat who was helping Bauman in the iconic photograph.

Bauman's memoir, "Stronger," recounts the attack on April 15, 2013, and his recovery over the ensuing months, said a spokeswoman. The book, co-written by Bret Witter, will be released ahead of the one-year anniversary of the bombings. REUTERS

Flying mattress

Cops search for dump truck in fatal Route 128 crash

State police are seeking help to locate a dump truck carrying mattresses that was believed to have caused a fatal crash on Route 128 in Burlington on Tuesday.

State police said that Frida Litvak, 56, of Framingham, was killed in the crash after the truck lost one of the mattresses. METRO

'One Last Ride' for state trooper and K-9 partner

Dante suffered from pulmonary hypertension. / MASSACHUSETTS STATE POLICE

Sad goodbye. A state trooper has penned an emotional letter about having to put down his police dog partner.

An open letter written by a Massachusetts State Police trooper about his K-9 partner and the decision to put him down has gained international attention.

The letter by Trooper Christopher Coscia, titled "One Last Ride," was posted this week on the department's Facebook page. It has been "liked" by more than 10,000 people and has been covered by media outlets as far away as England.

Coscia describes his last ride with Dante, his partner of nearly nine years, before having to put him down.

"It was a ride I had delayed for eight hours, just driving around with him as we did so many times, struggling with the decision to put him down. He sat upright, alert as ever, checking the perimeter, always on guard," Coscia wrote.

Dante had begun suffering from pulmonary hypertension.

Coscia recounted some of Dante's biggest successes on their more than 2,300 rides together, including locating a man who had just killed his girlfriend and helping to rid the streets of thousands of grams of drugs.

Quoted

"It was a ride I had delayed for eight hours ..."
Christopher Coscia
State police trooper

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Senate hearing

Attorney general confirms probe of Target data breach

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder confirmed on Wednesday that the Justice Department was investigating the massive hacking of consumer data from retailer Target Corp. during the holiday shopping season.

Testifying at a U.S. Senate hearing, Holder said the department would seek not only to find the perpetrators of the breach, but also "any individuals and groups who exploit that data via credit card fraud."

REUTERS

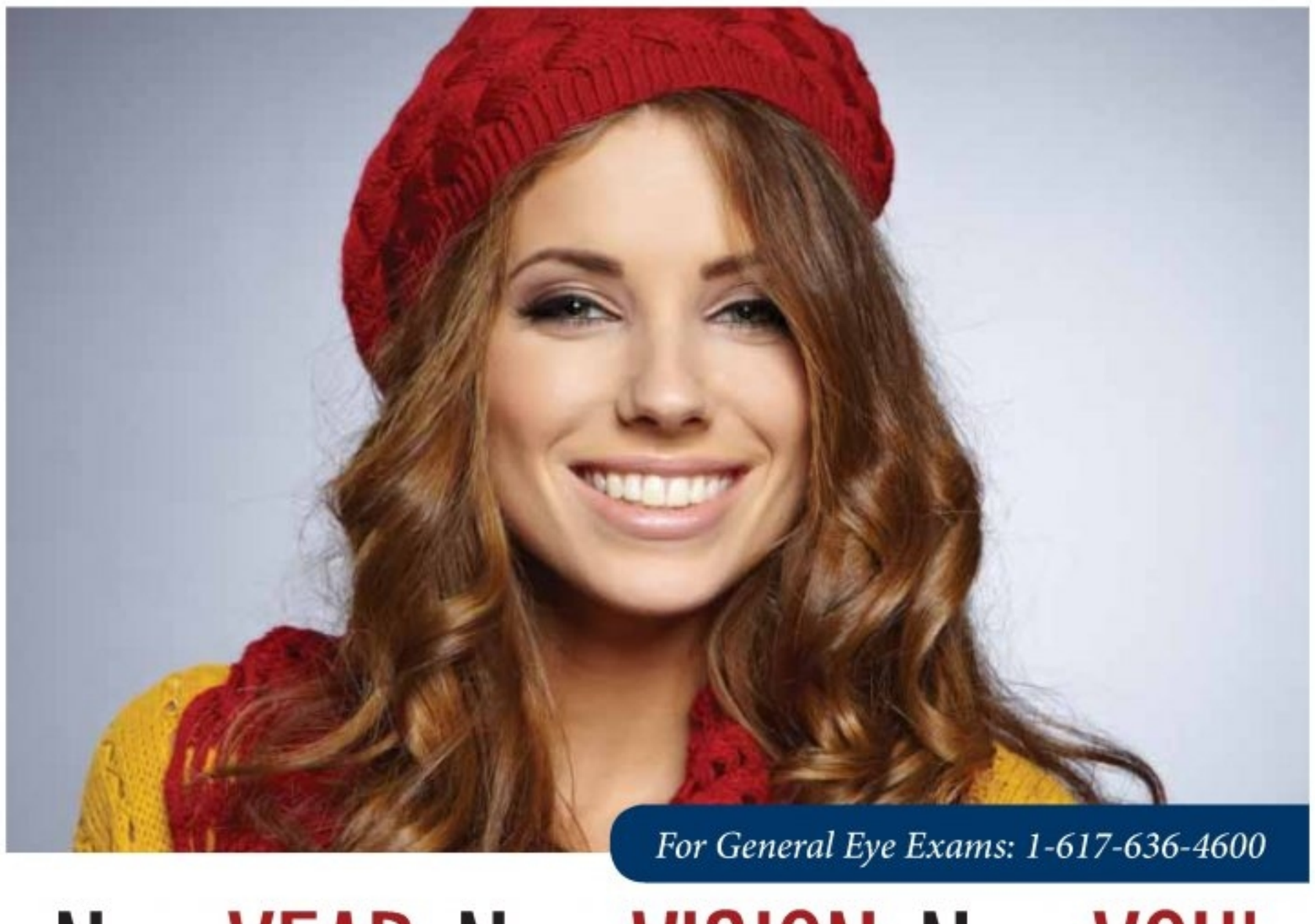
Cyber attack

Lawmakers want Neiman Marcus breach papers

U.S. lawmakers on Wednesday asked Neiman Marcus for information and documents related to the upscale retailer's recent cybersecurity breach that affected customer's data.

Democrats on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, in a letter to the company's chief executive, Karen Katz, said they are seeking more details so they can "fully understand ... how this theft of confidential customer information occurred" ahead of a Feb. 3 hearing.

REUTERS



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Obama pushes minimum wage hike on road trip

President Obama greets a Costco bakery employee during a tour of the store before speaking in Lanham, Md. / GETTY IMAGES

Middle-class hero.
Democrats are trying to reinforce Obama's image, against low poll numbers.

President Barack Obama, on a road trip to highlight themes from his State of the Union speech that called for narrowing the gap between the rich and poor, urged Congress on Wednesday to raise the minimum wage for low-income Americans.

"If you work hard, you should be able to pay your rent, buy your groceries, look after your kids," Obama said at a Costco big-box store in this Washington suburb. "If you put in a hard day's work, you deserve decent pay for it."

Flanked by boxes of paper towels and garbage bags, Obama said that in coming weeks he will sign an executive order raising to $10.10 an hour the minimum wage for federal contract workers.

But he said Congress must act to raise it for millions of other American workers. The current federal minimum wage is $7.25 an hour.

Obama noted that many state governors have already taken steps to raise the minimum wage in their states.

"While Congress decides whether it's going to raise the minimum wage or not, people outside of Washington are not waiting, and I'm not either," he said.

As part of a symbolic trip the day after his annual State of the Union address, Obama headed for a U.S. Steel plant near Pittsburgh to raise momentum for a proposal to make it easier for Americans to put money away for retirement.

His travel has a political motive. He wants to help Democrats win seats in November's congressional elections by focusing on a popular theme that touches on the economy and income inequality.

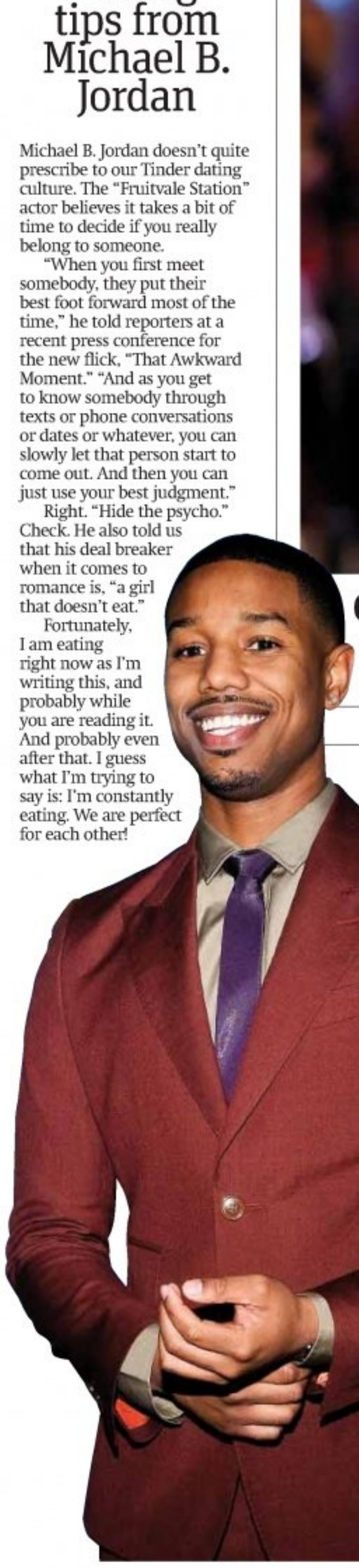
REUTERS

Quoted

"The increase in the minimum wage is a very powerful message. It resonates across the country."

Sen. Ed Markey

Dating tips from Michael B. Jordan



Michael B. Jordan doesn't quite prescribe to our Tinder dating culture. The "Fruitvale Station" actor believes it takes a bit of time to decide if you really belong to someone.

"When you first meet somebody, they put their best foot forward most of the time," he told reporters at a recent press conference for the new flick, "That Awkward Moment." "And as you get to know somebody through texts or phone conversations or dates or whatever, you can slowly let that person start to come out. And then you can just use your best judgment."

Right. "Hide the psycho." Check. He also told us that his deal breaker when it comes to romance is, "a girl that doesn't eat."

Fortunately, I am eating right now as I'm writing this, and probably while you are reading it. And probably even after that. I guess what I'm trying to say is: I'm constantly eating. We are perfect for each other!

GETTY IMAGES

Can someone please help these drunk cowgirls?

In yesterday's Word, writer Melinda Taub alerted you to the fact that Madonna and Miley Cyrus were going to team up for "Miley Cyrus: MTV Unplugged" — and they did! And they look like they need some assistance, no? Here are the two hot messes onstage looking like an acid-dipped Roy Rogers and Dale Evans on Tuesday night in Hollywood. The special premiered last night on MTV.

Hugh Grant likes to father children

Hugh Grant, that floppy-haired scoundrel of my '90s dreams, is turning into the Kevin Federline of the 20-tens. (Is that what they call this decade?)

The star has allegedly fathered two children, one in 2011 and one in 2012, with a secret girlfriend, but now sources claim he had another child in 2012 by another woman, according to the Sun.

Grant's identity as the father of a baby with Swedish TV producer Anna Eberstein was kept secret until December, when the 1-year-old boy's birth certificate was re-registered with Grant's name on it.

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
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Talking point

Clooney talks 'drunk' Bullock on AMA

George Clooney indulged fans in a raucous Reddit AMA ("Ask Me Anything," for those who haven't yet gotten with the 20-tens!) session, and some of his answers were quite revealing — if not entirely serious — especially when it came to good pal Sandra Bullock, who is "an incredibly charming woman who's really just fun to hang out with. Very smart and centered, even though she does drink a lot," he wrote. "It's tricky because Sandy drinks so much that oftentimes it's just hard to keep her upright." Also worth clearing up? The idea that Clooney has "lonely eyes," which he disputes — sort of. "I actually have only one lonely eye. The other eye's got nothing but friends," he replied.

2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

We check in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Mark Ruffalo has very critical children, Lindsay Lohan is in a winter wonderland, Ricky Martin wants to see some progress and Steve Carell is expanding his horizons.

@Mruff221: My 8 Yr old's response to Presidents plan: fight Climate Change, push more Fossil Fuel Extraction,"that doesn't sound very smart."

@lindsaylohan: snow adventures!

@ricky_martin: My friend, it's all about learning, it's all about growing. Don't stop.

@SteveCarell: My TV just told me that "Everything is better in a Perfect Bacon Bowl". I had no idea.

The breakthrough: Imogen Poots

On the rise. Actress is riding high, with several major releases slated for this year.

She didn't catch the acting bug as a kid: "I did a very low-key theater group when I was about 15, but that was very much just because I liked it. Then I started to go out on auditions around that time, when maybe I was about 16, 17. I just found there was something really satiating and electric and brilliant and inspiring all at once about acting. I just felt at ease existing in this sort of world and it was something I just wanted to give a shot at."

Why she signed on for "That Awkward Moment": "I think I understood what was happening. No relationships, I suppose, are straightforward, but especially modern day (ones) with technology and this whole idea that [love] can wait, and let's have fun and we'll explore relationships later — that stuff can be really silly and a real shame, because you (could) miss out on something that could be pretty great. Also I just felt like I really was excited about being part of something that was very relevant, very now, that hopefully won't feel dated in a decade."

On the film's unsung star: "I do think [New York] plays a huge role in the movie — any metropolis, actually, but specifically New York, to the way these characters are constructed and the way they think. You think differently in a city as (compared) to how you would kind of in middle America or in a different culture."

Her first onscreen kiss is one for the books: "My first onscreen kiss was Michael Douglas when I was 19 (in 'Solitary Man'). … I think onscreen kisses can always be so peculiar, and sometimes they can be actually worse when you know the person really, really well. You've become buddies. It's strange."

… But kissing Zac Efron wasn't so bad: "With Zac it was just really fun. You both know it's ridiculous and you both know there's a million people watching you and thinking, 'They're about to kiss!' But no, kissing Zac is no problem — it's all fun."

Imogen Poots' latest is "That Awkward Moment," in theaters Friday.
GETTY IMAGES

Zac Efron, Aaron Paul, Michael Douglas — who's the best kisser?

"I probably would go with Zac for the sake of the movie — make people go see that great kiss."

Stats

Imogen Poots

Age: 24
Hometown: London

Where you've seen her: Besides on Metro's 2014 Ones to Watch list? Horror films like "Fright Night" and "28 Weeks Later," and in recent well-reviewed music-themed works like "A Late Quartet" and "Greetings from Tim Buckley."

Where you can see her now: As Zac Efron's spunky love interest in "That Awkward Moment," in which she conceals any trace of her British accent as Ellie, a writer.

Where you'll see her next: Alongside Aaron Paul in March's "Need for Speed," and later in Peter Bogdanovich's "Squirrels to Nuts," with Jennifer Aniston and Owen Wilson.

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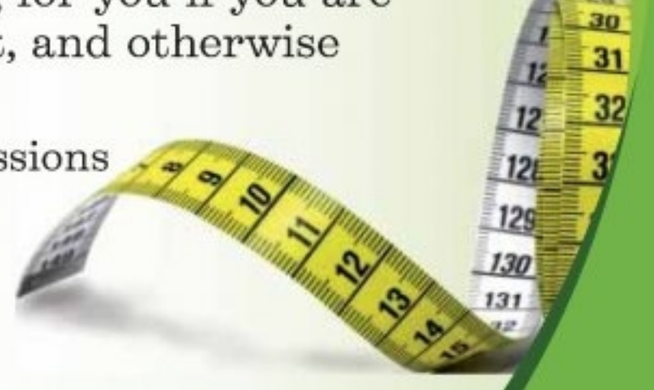

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Must see

'That Awkward Moment'

1 Two of last year's bigger breakouts, Michael B. Jordan ("Fruitvale Station") and Miles Teller ("The Spectacular Now"), star in this Zac Efron-led rom-com about guys trying to stay single. Look, we've all got bills to pay.

Is Zac Efron ashamed to be in "The Awkward Moment"? / FOCUS FEATURES

2 'Labor Day'
Kate Winslet plays an unstable single mom who finds herself forcibly housing a convict on the lam (Josh Brolin). Fortunately he's not one of those dangerous cons but one who fixes up the house, makes great pies and teaches her some sweet, sweet lovin'.

3 'Gloria'
Chilean actress Paulina Garcia is getting raves for her performance as a middle-aged woman who starts a relationship with an even older man she meets while clubbing. The original European version of the titular pop song is played.

4 Oscar Nominated Shorts
Want to get a leg up on those Oscar pools? Or maybe just see some presumably worthy films? You can watch all 10 of the titles nominated in the short animated and live action categories, including Disney's retro "Get a Horse!" that was shown before "Frozen."

5 'The Past'
Asghar Farhadi's Iranian drama "A Separation" was, deservedly, a ridiculously huge success. His follow-up takes him to France, and with bigger stars. Berenice Bejo and "A Prophet"'s Tahar Ramin play a couple dealing with the latter's comatose wife.

6 'Ride Along'
Surely the Ice Cube circa "Straight Outta Compton" always imagined he'd be doing little else but playing cops. Here, the ex-N.W.A. member decides to torture the diminutive, motormouth wannabe-officer (Kevin Hart) who wants to marry his sister.

7 'I, Frankenstein'
The old Universal horror movies used to resurrect Frankenstein's monster all the time, so technically it's not egregious that this Australian-American contraption awakens him in a dystopian future. That he's now named Adam and fights gargoyles is another kettle of fish.

8 'Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit'
Tom Clancy's Cold War hero returns with this reboot, in which the CIA man (Chris Pine) battles Russians. Wait, Russians? What era is this?

9 'Lone Survivor'
Based on true events, Mark Wahlberg heads up a sparse cast of four SEALs who get ambushed on a mission in Taliban-run Afghanistan.

10 'The Invisible Woman'
Ralph Fiennes directs and stars in this drama as Charles Dickens who, as it happened, took a secret mistress: Nelly Ternan (Felicity Jones), a poor, young, artistically minded woman some 25 years his junior.w

MATT PRIGGE
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Movies. Stream indie gem 'Concussion' online

They haven't been nominated for any major acting awards, but that's the voters' fault for not recognizing Robin Weigert and Maggie Siff. They gave two of last year's best performances in "Concussion," a sprightly, sneaky indie you can stream on the Metro website.

A decade ago Chris Rock defended gay marriage, saying homosexuals "have the right to be as miserable as everybody else." That's what's happened to "Concussion"'s 40-something hero Abby (Weigert, of "Deadwood"), who's in a stilted, sexless suburban gay marriage with kids. An accidental baseball to the head becomes the catalyst that gets Abby to make a curious decision: By day she retires to the Manhattan apartment she's rehabbing and offers her services as a high-end prostitute.

Homosexuality is treated casually (when Abby refers to "my wife," no one bats an eye), but that's part of the sly commentary; as a lesbian, she's still treated as a mysterious other, as when a bi-curious neighbor (Siff, of "Sons of Anarchy") becomes a client.

Weigert is thrillingly anxious, coming into her own only when tending to clients.

MATT PRIGGE

Go online

How to watch 'Concussion'

To stream go to:
www.metro.us/streamingmovies

Robin Weigert, right, plays a housewife who becomes a prostitute in "Concussion." / RADIUS-TWC

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J. Cole: Born winner

Next up, J. Cole will be touring with Eminem and Kendrick Lamar in Australia. / PROVIDED

Hip-hop. From outselling Kanye West to his friendship with Jay Z, J. Cole was always destined to be on top of the game.

J. Cole doesn't need anyone to tell him that 2014 is his year. "Every year people tell me that it's 'my year,' but this time I know it's true," he says. "I feel like I can accomplish anything."

The rapper and producer has good reason for feeling confident. His album, "Born Sinner," was named one of the best albums of 2013 by Rolling Stone. Released the same day as Kanye West's "Yeezus," Cole outsold West and surpassed him on the Billboard charts.

"Being able to say your album sold more than the Kanye West album is a crazy statement, and I'm a very big Kanye fan," Cole says. "It shows that if you give people the option to choose, they're going to choose 'Born Sinner.' That's just the truth and it feels amazing."

Cole pairs his ability as a producer and lyricist on "Born Sinner" with collaborations with Kendrick Lamar, Miguel, Dirty Projectors' singer Amber Coffman, 50 Cent and TLC, who sing the hook on the album's single, "Crooked Smile." Despite all the big names, Cole says he never had a wish list of artists he was hoping to work with. "It happened in the flow of creating the music. Like with 'Crooked Smile,' I thought, 'Oh man, I would love to hear TLC sing this right here. That would be crazy.' I thought it would be impossible, but it all worked out."

With Jay Z standing behind him, Cole shouldn't have been surprised. Jay Z has been mentoring Cole from the beginning of his career, and their relationship has morphed from a business relationship to one of equals. "Now I have the confidence of knowing what I'm doing and I don't need approval. I love Jay Z's guidance and I get it when I want it, but I know how to survive in this game," Cole says.

Beyond the brag-worthy connections and the massive album sales, Cole says the heart of why he makes music is in the lyrics. "I want to change the way people feel about themselves, not just on a physical level, but the way black people look at themselves, or women look at themselves, or the concept of beauty — whatever it is."

EMILY LAURENCE
emily.laurence@metro.us

If you go

J. Cole

Feb. 1, 8 p.m.
MGM Grand Theater at Foxwoods
240 MGM Grand Dr., Mashantucket, Conn.,
$35, $55
1-800-200-2882
www.foxwoods.com

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TV watch list

Tonight, both Ron and TV viewers say goodbye to Rob Lowe.
COLLEEN HAYES, NBC

COMEDY

'Saturday Night Live presents an SNL Sports Spectacular'

This weekend's episode of "SNL" will be Seth Meyers' last night at the "Weekend Update" desk. Sob! In good news, however, his replacement is longtime "Weekend Update" writer and very funny stand-up comedian Colin Jost. In other good news, you can get an extra, final "SNL" dose of Meyers tonight when he hosts this pre-Super Bowl look-back at the show's best sports sketches.

9 P.M., NBC

COMEDY

'Parks and Recreation'

Why are so many of our favorite characters leaving our favorite TV shows right now? Following Donald Glover's departure from "Community," tonight marks Rob Lowe and Rashida Jones' last episode of "Parks and Rec." Fortunately, we still have Ron Swanson and his formidable mustache to keep up our morale.

8:30 P.M., NBC

ALEXANDRA CAVALLO

SpeakEasy Stage's 'Color Purple' could benefit from deeper shades of drama

Lovely Hoffman and Crystin Gilmore face real issues. / GLENN PERRY PHOTOGRAPHY

If you go

'The Color Purple'

Through Feb. 8
BCA 539 Tremont St., Boston
$25-$62, 617-933-8600
www.speakeasystage.com

NICK DUSSAULT
letters@metro.us

Review. This adaptation of Alice Walker's novel still resonates.

The curtain call of the SpeakEasy Stage Company's production of "The Color Purple" is the best part of the entire production. This is not to say that the show is bad — far from it — but the majority of the play lacks the lump-in-the-throat emotion that resonates in that final call (a moment that actually brought cast members to tears at the performance this reviewer attended).

See more at www.metro.us

The collective ensemble consistently delivers soaring vocals, convincing emotion and a palpable sense of community. One only wishes this particular piece was a better showcase for their talent.

Act I feels like it drags on a bit too long, yet it somehow fails to impart the enormity of Miss Celie's emotionally fraught journey. (You'd probably do well to read Alice Walker's book — or at least see the Whoopi Goldberg film — prior to attending.) The deepest depths of her pain, anguish and humiliation — and the resultant outrage you should feel as you watch them unfold — just aren't quite here.

This is certainly not the fault of the actors, as their work often transcends the adapted story's shortcomings.

Maurice Parent's complete embodiment of the abusive Mister is the kind of immersive performance most actors only dream of giving. With the aid of little more than the magic of his own acting chops, Parent somehow ages and weathers his Mister as the story progresses.

The same cannot be said of Lovely Hoffman's Celie. This Celie remains vibrant and fresh-faced, despite a life filled with hardship and tragedy.

Valerie Houston is, in turn, both delightful and haunting as Sofia, while Crystin Gilmore adds a solid dose of sizzle as the sultry Shug Avery. Unfortunately — unlike in the film version — Shug doesn't have a number like "Sisters" with which to bring down the house. I suspect that Gilmore would have nailed it, as Aubin Wise (as Nettie) did during the curtain call, when her high notes were so clear as to cause one patron to exclaim, "My God, is that Nettie hitting those notes?"

Indeed it was.

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Street style. Break the mold — right.

Throw out the fashion rulebook

The raison d'etre of many fashion magazines is to rule your wardrobe with a vise-like, arbitrary and undiscriminating grip. No one should dare to brave horizontal stripes. Under no circumstances should any woman in her 40s wear a short skirt. But it's all silly really, isn't it? While we might need a little nudging in the direction that's right for us from time to time, we have enough intellectual capacity to know when something works and something doesn't. So we enlisted Julie Ragolia, the fashion director of Man of the World magazine who's styled Lady Gaga and contributed to every publication from Vogue to Interview, to help us break some old fashion rules.

1 Wearing one pattern head to toe is a bad idea

"A woman should never leave the house looking like a tablecloth. Accessories can help prevent that: a great belt, the right bag. ... Solid, strong pieces can tie it all together and break up a pattern before it goes bad," says Ragolia. "I'm a big fan of patterns overall. Before wearing one pattern head to toe, consider mixing mismatched patterns. It's a surefire way to boldly own a look and is surprisingly more subtle than one would think."

KIT GILBERT
Modmods.com

2 Be wary of costume pieces

"To a degree, yes; however, one statement piece like an oversized necklace or ski goggle-inspired sunnies are costume done right," says Ragolia.

3 Midi skirts require 6-inch heels

"I'm a tomboy and a busy fashion director, so super-high heels are not at all practical on a day-to-day basis. A sleek Chelsea boot or a brogue can look just as sexy with a pencil skirt as any heel," she says.

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4 Ripped jeans are for teenage girls and Britney Spears only

"Ripped jeans are a sign of a journeyed and well-lived life," according to Ragolia. "A hole in the knee reflects a willingness to fall, always an admirable quality in a woman. Paired with a smart clutch and an elegant heel, a ripped jean can be quite chic."

5 Short skirt and bare legs are a no-no

"If it's raining or below freezing temperatures, please don't wear a short skirt with bare legs," says Ragolia. "Especially with Uggs. It's just not practical or chic. But, do wear bare legs with a short skirt when weather-appropriate. Short skirts are playful and adventurous. They show a woman at her lightest of heart."

6 Unless you're Alexa Chung, don't try to conquer double denim

"As a devotee to Ralph Lauren and Levi's, I've been schooled to the contrary," says the stylist. "I live for double denim. If tones and fabric weights are in balance, I say try for a triple play. Just, throw an oversized Navajo cardigan over the shoulder to break things up."

Funky Brown Chick

TWANNA A. HINES, M.S.

AWARD-WINNING EDUCATOR AND SEX COLUMNIST. FOLLOW HER ON TWITTER: @ FUNKYBROWNCHICK.

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO GO DOWNTOWN?

I'm a straight guy, 27 years old, and I am crazy about my girlfriend of two years. We have awesome chemistry, and for the most part, the sex is great. But she gets really uncomfortable when I go down on her, like she doesn't trust that I am having fun — which I totally am! How can I help her open up to it?

Considering vaginal penetration is less likely to produce orgasms for women than clitoral stimulation, it is especially unfortunate that straight partners often prioritize it. I gather you already understand how important it is to pay attention to more than one orifice for oh-so-amazing sexual pleasures. It sounds like you already understand that, and you want to reassure your girlfriend that you going downtown is a favorite on your shared menu of sexual choices.

It is not a coincidence that the word "intercourse" can refer to sex as well as interpersonal communication (look it up). You mention she "gets really uncomfortable," and it's "like" she doesn't trust that you are having fun. That sounds very nonverbal.

It may be time for the two of you to have a talk. While speech is certainly not required to communicate every sexual desire, in this situation, it could help provide a bit more clarity for of you. Here's my advice for puckering up for some real talk about pleasing your lover:

Put her at ease

Be sure to explain to your girlfriend exactly why you enjoy going down on her. To reassure her that you're a bona fide Downtown Dining Enthusiast, here are sample phrases to kickstart the conversation: "I really love the way you taste because ___" or "I want to know if I am pleasing you because ___."

Up your game

Your girlfriend is only 50 percent of your relationship's equation. If you've not yet explicitly asked her about your skills, how can we be 100 percent sure that she likes oral sex and just isn't comfortable with the way you're doing it? Don't freak out on me. I truly believe you are a champion, my little below-the-belt warrior. I'm just saying education is a lifelong process, and one should never stop learning. A while back, my column helped a dude tell his lady how to do better going down, too. Communication is the first step in upping your game at the clit Olympics.

Dig deeper

We all have egos, right? Exposing our genitals to our lovers can sometimes leave us feeling, well, exposed and vulnerable. If you've already been together for two years, that tells me you're a couple with some staying power. To make this relationship even more enjoyable, plunge deeper into sexual intimacy. Communicate about your needs and desires and explore sex together. Good luck, and please keep me posted.

Using your mouth to communicate is an essential first step. / COLOURBOX

Sexpert

#Vday Twitter chat with Funky Brown Chick

Looking for ways to make your Valentine's Day a sex-positive, open minded love-fest? Join Funky Brown Chick for a Valentine's Day Twitter chat. Tweet @funkybrownchick with the hashtag #AskFBC to get answers to questions on love, relationships and sexual health.
Friday, Feb. 14, 2-3 p.m.

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April 12, House of Blues
(On sale Friday)

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May 7, Royale
(On sale Friday)

Boston Calling
Featuring Jack Johnson, Death Cab for Cutie, Modest Mouse and more
May 23-25, City Hall Plaza
(On sale Friday)

Bruno Mars
Moonshine Jungle Tour
with Aloe Blacc
July 2, TD Garden
(On sale Monday)

Motley Crue
The Final Tour
with Alice Cooper
Aug. 24, Xfinity Center
(On sale Friday)

Adopting Sons of the Sea

A new "Echo." Incubus frontman has a new band and a new book, but he still gets nervous every time he puts something new into the world.

Brandon Boyd's artistic range extends beyond Incubus, the band that made him famous, with hits like "Drive" and "Wish You Were Here." He's written three books — his most recent work, "So the Echo," released this month, consists of ink drawings, watercolors, collages, photos and writings from the past four years.

His latest non-Incubus venture Sons of the Sea — a pop-leaning project with echoes of the Beach Boys — have released their debut with Boyd's book. Even though he's a certified rock star, Sons of the Sea marks Boyd's second foray into putting out a debut. He says he released a four-song EP last summer because of the music industry's changing nature. "I needed to put a foot in the pool before I jumped all the way in," he says. "It would be foolish to put all your eggs in one basket."

And its not just album formats that have changed since Incubus hit the scene: Promotional techniques are a whole new ballgame in the advent of social media. When the band were getting started, Boyd says he "would draw flyers, make Kinkos copies, go home and lick stamps" to get the word out about upcoming shows. But despite its capricious landscape, Boyd says one thing hasn't changed about the industry: the nerves that come with releasing a new project.

"Whether with the band that I grew up with, or this new project, or whether it's the book, there's always this feeling of vulnerability," he says. "It's this thing where you're about to show your hand to the world. 'Fingers crossed, I hope everybody likes it! Here I go!' It's that kind of thing."

Having been in the industry for nearly 20 years, Boyd's seen many reviews of his work — good and bad. But he's learned how to not let the negative ones slow him down. "I've had to develop a little more of a resilience, I guess you could say. Truth be told, it's a good education, just to be able to filter. Just because someone has something unpleasant to say about what you're doing, doesn't necessarily mean that what you're doing is bad or wrong. It just means that they didn't see what you were seeing or hear what you were hearing at that moment."

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

If you go

Brandon Boyd and Sons of the Sea
Friday, 7 p.m.
The Paradise
967 Comm. Ave., Boston
$20, 800-745-3000
www.ticketmaster.com

Brandon Boyd says that Incubus is still a going concern. / WIREIMAGE

Stretching out

The end of Incubus?

Despite Boyd's solo projects, he assures us that there's no end on the horizon for the group that started his trajectory to success. In fact, they just toured with the Dave Matthews Band in South America last month.

"Incubus is still very much a band. We've been a band a really long time. I think in order to remain a healthy family ... we need to stretch out. ... I think it will only positively inform our process as a band when we come back."

Also onstage

Panic! At the Disco

Tonight, 8
House of Blues
15 Lansdowne St., Boston
$30-$45, 800-745-3000
www.livenation.com

Panic! At the Disco shamelessly immersed themselves in the theatrical side of emo and became the scene's resident chameleons, integrating seemingly every genre of pop from '60s baroque psychedelia to electronic dance beats into their ever-morphing sound. Identity crisis? Maybe. Heck, these guys even dropped that weird exclamation point from the middle of their moniker for a little while. But this apparent instability has allowed them to grow, while many of their peers have slowly painted themselves into a corner.

Panic! At the Disco have a more selective membership now / PROVIDED

Also onstage

Bass Drum of Death

Monday, 9 p.m.
Great Scott
1222 Comm. Ave., Allston
$10, 18+, 800-745-3000
www.ticketmaster.com

It'd be silly to give your band this name if you didn't mean business, but these Mississippi-based garage punks certainly do. MATT DINARO

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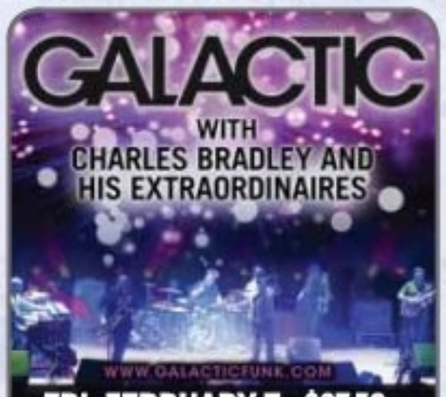

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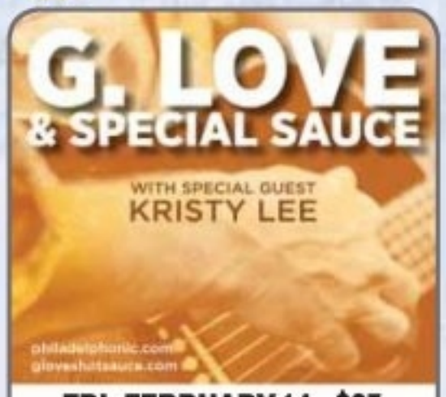

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SAT. FEBRUARY 15 - $18

FEBRUARY 20 - $25

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SAT. FEBRUARY 22 - $25

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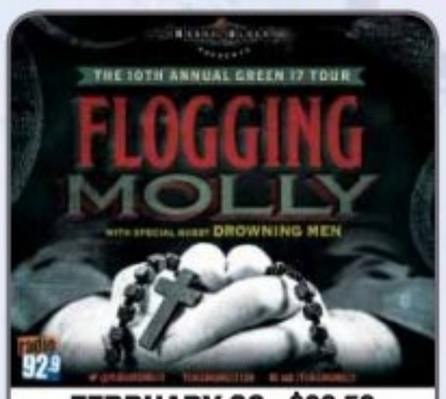

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FILM

'Wretches and Jabberers'

Tonight, 6:30
Bill Bordy Theater, Emerson College, 216 Tremont St., Boston
$10, 617-244-9899
www.boston.reelabilities.org/films
This documentary, the kickoff screening for the weeklong Reelabilities: Disabilities Film Festival, follows two men diagnosed with autism as they traverse the globe, from Japan to Sri Lanka to Finland, trying to spread awareness about their condition and dispel the many myths.

MUSIC

MARCO BORGGREVE

Kirill Gerstein

Friday, 8 p.m.
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston, $35-$55, 617-482-2595, www.celebrityseries.org
This Russian-born pianist will perform selections from Haydn, Schumann, Mussorgsky and the contemporary prodigy Timo Andres. His playing has a wonderful sense of dance to it, communicating not just notes and dynamics, but a concrete human experience through time, so that the piece becomes not just something to be heard but someone to be listened to.

'Whitey: The United States vs. James J. Bulger'

Tonight, 7
Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St., Brookline
$15, 617-734-2500
www.coolidge.org
The story of Whitey Bulger is fascinating, not so much because of Bulger's crimes but because of its revelation of a law enforcement structure in which the line between compromise and corruption is disturbingly blurred. It's this angle that director Joe Berlinger, who will appear for a Q&A, takes up in this documentary, fresh from Sundance.

DANCE

The 30th Meridian Belly Dance Ballet

Saturday, 8 p.m.
Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave., Somerville
$20-$25, 617-718-2191
www.bellydanceballet.com
Bevin Victoria, sometimes known as Hybrid, teamed up with her frequent collaborators, the local Balkan and Klezmer ensemble Klezwoods, to create this performance, composed of several vignettes which unlock the narrative potential of belly dance.

THEATER

'House/Divided'

Tonight through Sunday
Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston
$25-$65, 617-824-8400
www.artsemerson.org
Presented by New York theater troupe The Builders Association, this production juxtaposes scenes from the Great Recession with scenes from the Great Depression, via "The Grapes of Wrath." It concerns the breakdown not simply of the American Dream but of any sense of American identity in a crisis whose victims have been denied even the dignity of their own failure.

FOOD

Some Like It Hot Chili Cook-Off

Saturday, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Crema Café, 27 Brattle St., Cambridge
Free, 617-491-3434
www.harvardsquare.com
It may still be freezing out, but at least your mouth will be warm if you try some of the chili on offer here, contributed by various Harvard Square eateries in an annual battle competition for chili glory. **MATTHEW DINARO**

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MUSIC

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Train Spotting: Washington Street Station

PROVIDED

Allston/Brighton contains plenty of creative, ambitious eateries — plus a few joints whose business models hinge on wasted BU kids who will pay just about anything for a slice of pizza at 2 a.m. However, to order a tomato and feta omelette with home fries and toast, all for about $5, on a Tuesday afternoon is to know true magic and wonder. Thus, we salute Katherine Taing, matriarch of The Brighton Cafe, as well as Twin Donuts in Union Square.

When we dropped in for coffee and an egg and cheese English muffin, she explained that her family keeps Cafe noms mega-affordable by eschewing supply distributors in favor of Restaurant Depot.

What's the most interesting thing that's happened during your 11 years here?
We've witnessed a lot of accidents. The Green Line has hit a few cars within the last 10 years.

Whoa. This is a pretty hazardous area.
It's not very hazardous. It's just that we're bystanders in the line of the crazy intersection here.

How would you characterize your regulars?
They eat the same thing every day, to the point where it's like, "The usual?" "Yeah." "The usual?" "Yeah."

What's the most interesting thing anyone orders daily?
The same plate of eggs, actually. It's almost, like, the mundanity of it. I don't know how this one customer ate it every single day: Coffee, scrambled eggs and toast. Recently, he's changed to fried eggs.

What do you think prompted the switch?
I don't know. We had already made the scrambled eggs, and he was like, "No, I want something else today." A lot of people have their signature plates and signature coffees. Coffees usually don't change.

What's up with all the different Washington Streets? Seems like every neighborhood has one.
We get a lot of people coming in for directions. Usually, this isn't the Washington Street they're looking for. Usually, they're looking for the downtown Washington Street, and I have to tell them to drive back into the city. The fact that we're next to the Washington T Stop, that confuses a lot of people, too.

Who's the most aggravating customer you've ever encountered?
Okay, we have this one lady who's ... I think she's a little disturbed. She panhandles. We've banned her, like, numerous times, and she keeps begging to come in. I don't let her in. My husband will, because she begs. I ignore her, but he's soft-hearted. I think she's not taking her meds or something. I'm like, "We're not the only place that has coffee. You can get coffee somewhere else." But she always wants this coffee. **BARRY THOMPSON**

A NEW STANDARD IN COCKTAIL EDUCATION

Thursty

LUKE O'NEIL
@LUKEONEIL47

Naomi Levy, Bob McCoy and Jackson Cannon are ready to show you the ropes. / PROVIDED

It's not exactly a secret that the bars at the Hotel Commonwealth are among the best in the city. Actually, they're regularly recognized by media and industry peers as among the best in the whole country. Eastern Standard, in particular, has been leading the charge for almost a decade, setting the, well, standard for spirits and cocktail knowledge and innovation. While many of us have been fortunate enough to sit at their bar (or at Island Creek Oyster Bar or The Hawthorne) and absorb some of this knowledge by osmosis, a fast-paced night of service doesn't exactly lend itself to much serious one-on-one time with the "professors."

Beginning Saturday, Feb. 8, their new "Standard" Education program aims to change that, launching a series of classes, tastings and demos about food and spirits.

"We've got a chance to basically have the 'experts' of Eastern Standard take a day to focus on different things that we're really excited about," Bob McCoy, beverage programs liaison, explains. He'll be conducting a class on vermouth, while bar director Jackson Cannon will attempt to demystify sherry, assistant bar manager Naomi Levy will dig deep into scotch and wine director Colleen Hein will take students on a tour of the wine region of southwest France. The structure will be six 50-minute classes throughout the course of the day, at $40 per session.

"We're always looking to push and challenge each other, and learn from each other, but also bring it back to the guests, to share what we've been able to pick up along the way," McCoy says. "This is a different environment to be able to expand on a lot of that stuff. When we're jamming at the bar, we get a chance to share a little bit of what we know, but we don't always have the opportunity to get as deep into it as we'd like. This is a chance for us to take a breath and expand on those thoughts."

The classes are meant for anyone, from regular patrons to serious enthusiasts and even industry professionals.

McCoy's class picks up on what's become a growing trend in the spirits world. (Though Eastern Standard has been making their own vermouths since they opened.)

"Obviously vermouth is back in general, what's old is new again. It's seeing a bit of a resurgence," he says. Vermouth appeals to both spirits and wine drinkers, since it's a bit of both. "Vermouth is wine, potentially the oldest wine in the world," he says. "In ancient times they were aromatizing, sweetening and flavoring wines for flavor and medicinal purposes. Even in the dark ages of vermouth, if you will, it's always been relevant, it's been a cocktail ingredient," he says, running through its long history, from its popularity in the late 1800s on through its persistence in the Manhattan and Martini, to today's artisanal vermouth producers. Lastly, he says. "I think you can define vermouth as a cocktail itself. If you're talking about the original cocktail, spirit, bitters and sugar, you can start looking at vermouth as a bottled cocktail."

I never thought of it that way, but that's why I'm letting these guys do the teaching.

If you go

"Standard" Education

For more information go to **www.easternstandardeducation.eventbrite.com**

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Ski for fun and funds in February

PLUS

Maine

Shawnee Peak

www.shawneepeak.com
Summit Elevation: 1,900 ft.
Vertical Drop: 1,300 ft.
Number of Lifts: 5
Number of Trails: 42
Longest Run: 7,920 ft.

The largest family ski racing series returns for its 25th year on Saturday. The Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge holds races and activities for all abilities. The weekend also includes a huge apres-ski party on the patio.

Massachusetts

Nashoba Valley Ski Area

www.skinashoba.com
Base Elevation: 200 ft.
Summit Elevation: 440 ft.
Vertical Drop: 240 ft.
Skiable Area: 59 acres
Number of Lifts: 9
Number of Trails: 17
Longest Run: 3,000 ft.
Grab your skis or snowboard and head to Nashoba Valley Ski Area on Saturday for the 19th annual CSC Jimmy Fund Snow Challenge. The event consists of a day of skiing, team competition, fun and fundraising. Over the last 18 years, the event has raised more than $500,000 for the Jimmy Fund.

New Hampshire

Waterville Valley Resort

www.waterville.com
Base Elevation: 1,984 ft.
Summit Elevation: 4,004 ft.
Vertical Drop: 2,020 ft.
Number of Lifts: 12
Number of Trails: 52
Longest Run: 15,840 ft.
This Sunday enjoy discounted lift tickets with $1 donated to Boarding 4 Breast Cancer and the NH Breast Cancer Coalition for every lift ticket sold. Take part in Waterville's annual Pink Raffle to support B4BC and the NH Breast Cancer Coalition. Waterville has raised more than $38,000 in the last eight years through this event. B4BC's mission is to increase awareness about breast cancer, the importance of early detection and the value of an active lifestyle.

Mount Washington Resort - Bretton Woods

www.brettonwoods.com
Base Elevation: 1,600 ft.
Summit Elevation: 3,100 ft.
Vertical Drop: 1,500 ft.
Skiable Area: 464 acres
Number of Lifts: 9
Number of Trails: 102
Longest Run: 10,560 ft.
Join Bretton Woods on Saturday for a competition of wit, agility and humor. Follow clues to find hidden treasure on the slopes. Register a team of up to four skiers or riders by fundraising more than $500 to support adaptive skiing and boarding at the mountain.

Vermont

Snowboarders looking to get vertical this weekend need not look any farther than Okemo's Amp Energy Superpipe. / OKEMO

Okemo Mountain Resort

www.okemo.com; Base Elevation: 1,144 ft. **Summit Elevation:** 3,344 ft. **Vertical Drop:** 2,200 ft. **Skiable Area:** 632 acres **Number of Lifts:** 19 **Number of Trails:** 119 **Longest Run:** 23,760 ft.
Be sure to get to Okemo this weekend to check out the new Amp Energy Superpipe, which made its season debut on Jan. 18 as the first halfpipe to open in the East. Measuring 500 feet in length, the Amp Energy Superpipe has 18-foot high walls and a span of 54 feet between decks. The slope angle is 16 degrees, achieved with a depth of 14 feet of snow under the bottom of the pipe at the high end. The total amount of snow required to build the Superpipe was 51 acre-feet, which required more than 10 million gallons of water.

Vermont

Stratton Mountain Resort

www.Stratton.com
Base Elevation: 1,872 ft.
Summit Elevation: 3,875 ft.
Vertical Drop: 2,003 ft.
Skiable Area: 625 acres
Number of Lifts: 11
Number of Trails: 94
Longest Run: 15,840 ft.
The Noram Mogul Competition is coming to Stratton once again this Thursday through Sunday. Don't miss some of the hottest Mogul Skiers in the world as they tear up the World Cup at 2014 Grand Pre Nor Am. Teams from USA, Canada, Japan and Australia will take a shot at fame and a chance to compete on the World Cup stage. Visit www.stratton.com for a full schedule of events. METRO

Horoscope

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. You may feel depressed today if you allow unpleasant memories to keep you brooding. Don't place limitations upon yourself.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. You can earn some extra money if you make intelligent use of your creative talents. Explore the possibility of a small business venture and consider looking for a partner.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. You stand to make significant gains through a female contact. Traveling for business will be fruitful. Be ready to help children with any problems they might experience.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Estrangement from your lover is a strong possibility. Avoid involvement in secret affairs that may damage your reputation. Read personal papers carefully.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. Your ability to communicate with charm will help you attract the partner of your choice. This is a good time to formulate and complete contracts and agreements.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. A romance can develop through work-related functions or business trips. Be wary, as this connection may damage your reputation and set you back professionally.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Socializing and travel should be on your agenda. You will make a great impression if you turn on the charm and reveal your outgoing nature.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Real estate will turn out to be lucrative. You can make changes to your home that will increase its value. Investigate an issue that may be causing anxiety in an older relative.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Catch up on email today. Discuss any personal problems that are bothering you with your relatives. Get involved in humanitarian groups.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Professional advancement is on the horizon. Your consistent ability to finish work on time will enable you to set a good example, and you will receive recognition.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. It's a good time to ask for favors. You should join a group with a humanitarian cause. Your reputation will grow based on the company you choose to keep.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. Put some extra time, effort and money into beautifying your home environment. Investments can be lucrative if you make careful choices.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Letters

Here's to you, Mrs. Robinson

Re: 'Metro names new editor-in-chief' (Metro, Jan. 29) I was very happy to read about Dorothy Robinson's meteoric rise from gossip columnist to editor-in-chief of Metro! Nice new "makeover" photo, too. She is a witty and talented writer and a new mom, and she also must have a good sense of humor to put up with all the ribbing about her "giant head" photos in the past. Congrats!

B.L. BARR, VIA EMAIL

Are you fur real, Metro?

Re: 'Leather pants done right' (Metro, Jan. 28) ARE YOU KIDDING ME? Alice Tate suggested a real fur stole to readers? There are no words to describe how disgusting fur truly is. I'm in utter disbelief that in this day and age, you would still consider fur not only fashionable (it's not), but a humane choice as well. It's gross and horrifying, Metro. Shame on you.

PAUL BIBO, VIA EMAIL

How'd you think babies were made?

Re: 'You're not metal, madam' (Metro, Jan. 28) Letter writer Pasquale Tato claims that women are not incubators and that fetuses have "no rights to live and grow inside another person's body and feed off that person's blood." How shocking and disturbing. Does he think the fetus invaded the mother's body like an unwanted virus or vampire? Unless the woman was raped, she was a willing partner in creating that fetus. If she selfishly chose to ignore the consequences, that is her fault, not the baby's, and indeed once she created the baby, the baby does have a right to "feed off" off her. She has the moral obligation to care for what she created. Woe to the world if Mr. Tato's selfish view becomes mainstream. SHOSHANA ROSE, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Sudoku: Easy and hard

		5		2	3			8
	8		4	9				
		2			5			9
5						8	7	4
		1				9		
4	3	8						6
2			3			6		
				6	7		1	
9			2	1		5		

			2	3			6	5
	5				6			7
	9					3		
		8	7	5		4		1
	1						3	
2		3		9	4	6		
		9					1	
5			3				7	
7	2			8	1			

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword

Across
1 Dreary
6 Cut drastically
11 Ruin, with "up"
14 Pay-phone place
15 Sun, in combos
16 Environmental prefix
17 — Rica
18 Lariat
19 Non-verbal OK
20 Hawaiian island
22 Geneva's river
24 Roomy sleeve
28 Lao and Thai
29 Thunderstruck
30 Dismantle a tent
32 Ukraine's capital
33 White heron
35 Get better
39 Ultimatum word
40 Geological period
41 Bowser's pal
42 Cattail or bulrush
43 Ism
45 Mr. Stravinsky
46 Complies
48 Rule
50 Dodgers' Reese (2 wds.)
53 Umpire
54 Shaman's findings
55 Fleeting
57 British title
58 Flawless
60 Rainwater pipe
65 Bulldogs backer
66 Florentine poet
67 Delete a file
68 Billy — Williams
69 Type of test
70 Pithy

Down
1 "Doctor Who" network
2 London lav
3 Selene's sister
4 Legal rep
5 Army duds
6 Monsieur's gesture
7 Carrie's "Star Wars" role
8 Jai —
9 Take a chair
10 Froggy
11 Columbus' port
12 Huskies of the NCAA
13 Fashions
21 Poker stake
23 Exuberant greeting (hyph.)
24 Bread pro
25 Loose-limbed
26 Not those
27 Flag (2 wds.)
28 Well-put
30 Encourages
31 Essential item
34 Big steel town
36 "The — Sanction"
37 Be crazy about
38 Greene of "Bonanza"
43 So-so mark
44 Pointed arch
47 Next to
49 Compensate for
50 Sat for a photo
51 Novelist — Zola
52 Like a wolf's howl
53 The life of —
55 Hecht and Franklin
56 Pro — (in proportion)
59 "The" to Fritz
61 Opposite of "post-"
62 Boathouse implement
63 – Enterprise
64 Casual wear

Yesterday's answer

M	A	T	C	H	■	S	P	A	T	■	B	A	C	H
A	B	A	S	E	■	L	U	S	H	■	A	R	L	O
G	E	T	T	Y	■	A	L	T	A	■	N	E	I	N
M	E	A	■	J	U	M	P	I	N	G	J	A	C	K
A	T	R	I	U	M	S	■	■	K	I	O	S	K	S
■	■	■	F	D	A	■	S	N	I	T	S	■	■	■
G	A	F	F	E	■	F	A	U	N	A	■	Y	A	K
O	P	R	Y	■	G	O	I	N	G	■	T	O	P	I
O	B	I	■	N	A	I	L	S	■	P	A	W	E	D
■	■	■	T	E	L	L	S	■	K	O	P	■	■	■
S	P	R	A	W	L	■	■	R	E	P	E	A	L	S
Q	U	A	N	T	U	M	L	E	A	P	■	G	U	T
U	P	I	N	■	S	O	A	K	■	I	M	A	G	E
A	P	S	E	■	E	A	V	E	■	N	A	V	E	L
D	Y	E	D	■	S	T	A	Y	■	G	E	E	S	E

Interactive Crossword

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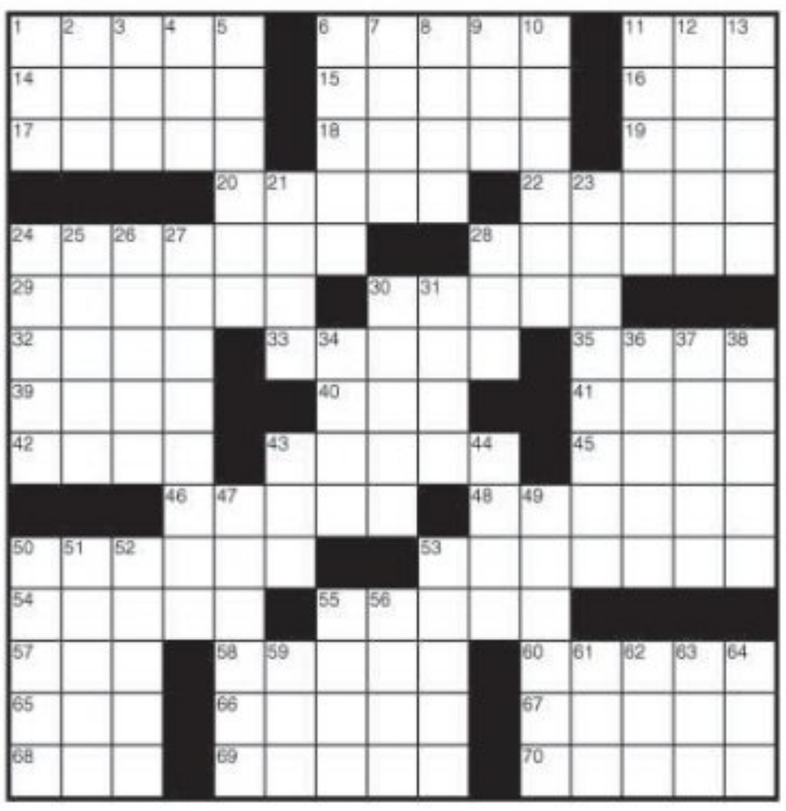

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3 SPORTS

Prince of pressure

Brady voted most clutch

Tom Brady was voted the quarterback players would want most in the last two minutes of a Super Bowl with the game on the line in an anonymous NFL player survey conducted by ESPN.

They 'B' rollin'

Bruins keep noses to the grindstone with Habs in town

The Bruins are playing, arguably, their best hockey of the season as they've won their last four games, five out of their last six, and have allowed the fewest goals in the league (115). Four of their remaining five games before the Olympic break are at home, where they are 20-5-2 this season.

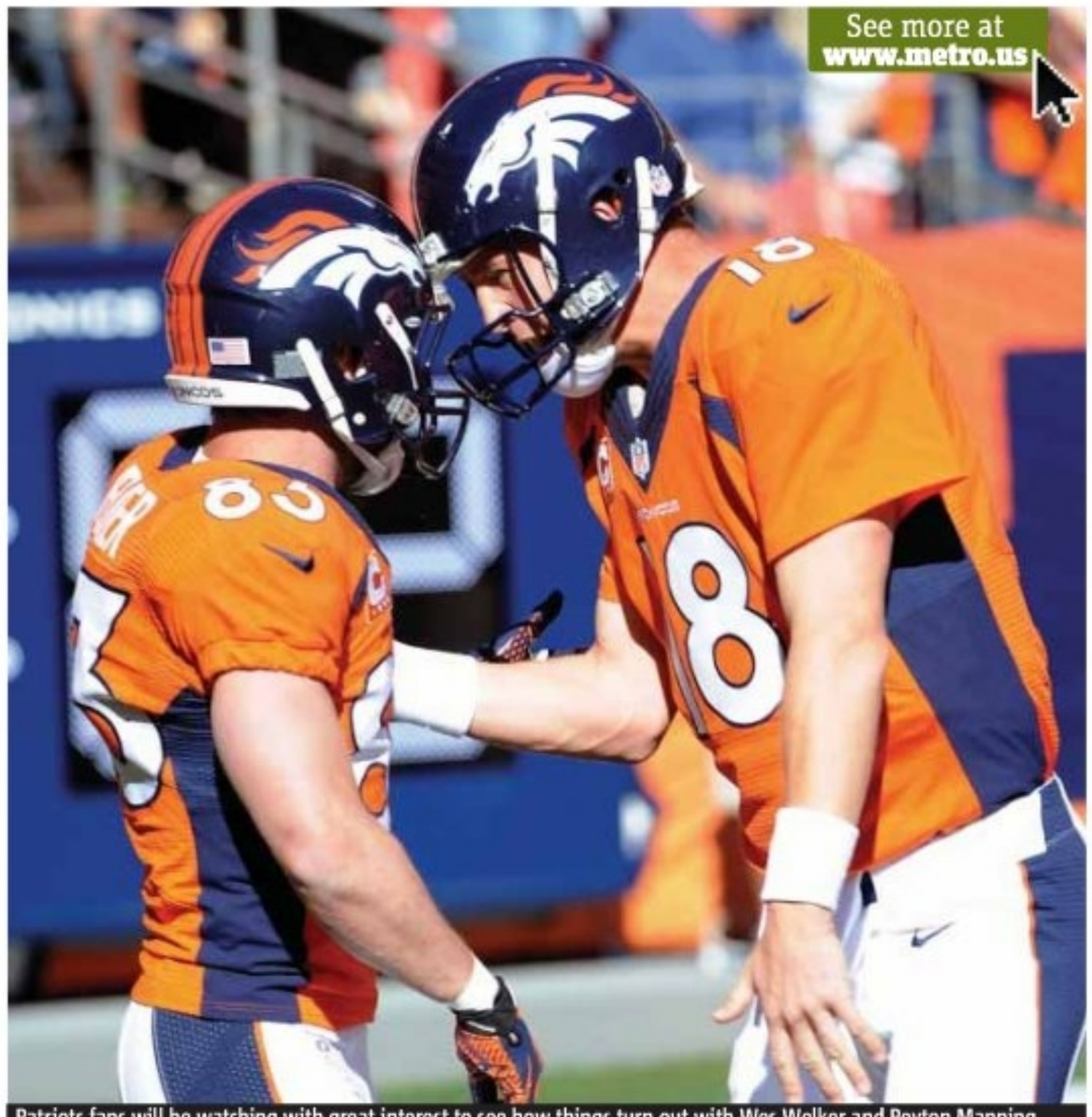
The B's did not appear distracted by the incident at the tail end of Tuesday night's 6-2 win over Florida in which Panthers goaltender and former B's great Tim Thomas smacked Carl Soderberg on the head with his stick.

"You tell your players to play to the final whistle, and that's what [Soderberg] does," Bruins head coach Claude Julien said.

Montreal enters Thursday's game at TD Garden (7 p.m., NESN) with a 28-20-5 record. METRO

Super Bowl won't lack Patriots-related drama

NFL. There is no shortage of story lines linked back to Foxboro in this Sunday's mega showdown.



Patriots fans will be watching with great interest to see how things turn out with Wes Welker and Peyton Manning this Sunday in New Jersey. / STEVE NEHF, DENVER POST

The Patriots haven't played in 11 days and won't play a meaningful game again for 214 days at the very earliest. This does not mean that Patriots fans should be allowed to tune out American football for the next seven-plus months. In fact, this Sunday's little matchup between the Broncos and Seahawks (6:30 p.m., FOX) will offer up plenty of Pats-related story lines.

A look at what to keep tabs on if you're a Patriots backer:

1 The Manning-Brady thing

Tom Brady's "legacy" took a small hit in the AFC Championship game as he had a relatively average performance, throwing for 277 yards on 24-of-38 passing with a 93.9 passer rating. He is now 2-2 against Peyton Manning in the playoffs. But those who back Brady in the "greatest of this era" argument can save some face if Manning comes up short this Sunday. With a loss in New Jersey, Manning would be 1-2 in the Super Bowl (Brady is 3-2). Number 18 also really needs to have a strong individual performance this Sunday if he wants his name to be tossed around the barroom with names like Montana and Elway in any G.O.A.T. argument. Manning has yet to have played well in the "Big Game" as he has an average Super Bowl passer rating of 85.1 and has as many touchdowns thrown as interceptions (two each).

2 The Welker choke

At Tuesday night's Celtics-Knicks game at Madison Square Garden, Wes Welker was shown sitting in the stands on the JumboTron. An animated fan sitting behind Welker was making "choke" and "drop" gestures behind the Broncos receiver's back but they were visible for all in the arena to see. It's clear that Welker has gained a reputation for coming up small in the big moment, lowlighted by his "drop" in the closing moments of Super Bowl XLVI against the Giants and his slip-up against the Ravens in the AFC title game last year on a key third down. Patriots fans who hold resentment — and of course — Bill Belichick, wouldn't mind seeing Welker's trend continue on Sunday.

3 A redemption Carroll

Seahawks head coach Pete Carroll coached the Patriots for three years (1997-99) but it's almost as though those days have been erased, "Men in Black" style, from the minds of New England fans and the NFL archives. Patriots fans got over the Carroll era quickly. Those three Super Bowl titles in four years helped move matters along. Still, Carroll's Patriots lost one more game per year in each of his three seasons in Foxboro and New England might be the only place in America where he is regarded as a hokey, below-average coach. If Carroll wins a Super Bowl title Sunday, it's entirely possible that Patriots fans will begin to look back on those late 1990s teams in a much different light.

Quoted

"I had one game where I set a record for catches in a Super Bowl. I had another game where it didn't work out as I expected."

Wes Welker, Broncos wide receiver
On his Super Bowl history with New England

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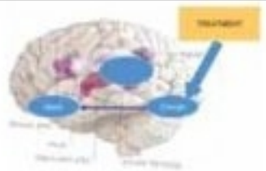

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Contact Information

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Legal Notices

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
(SEAL) **LAND COURT**
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

481172

ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:

Nelson Valdez
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act:, 50 U.S.C. App. §501 *et seq.*:

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company on Behalf of Financial Asset Securities Corp., Soundview Home Loan Trust 2007-WMC1, Asset Backed Certificates, Series 2007-WMC1,

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Boston (Jamaica Plain)**, numbered **3227 Washington Street,** given by **Nelson Valdez** to **Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for WMC Mortgage Corp., its successors and assigns,** dated November 29, 2006, recorded with the **Suffolk County Registry of Deeds** at Book **40862**, Page **71**, and now held by plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before March 3, 2014 or you will be forever barred from claiming that you are entitled to the benefits of said Act.

Witness, JUDITH C. CUTLER Chief Justice of this Court on January 14, 2014
Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder

1/30/14

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
(SEAL) **LAND COURT**
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

481170

ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:

Christine E. Mahan
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act:, 50 U.S.C. App. §501 *et seq.*:

U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-KS10,

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Boston (District of Hyde Park),** numbered **6 Derry Road,** given by **Catherine A. Mahan and Christine E. Mahan to New Century Mortgage Corporation,** dated **June 17, 2005,** Registered with **Suffolk County** Registry District of the Land Court as Document Number **00703580** noted on Certificate of Title Number **108585,** and now held by plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **March 3, 2014** or you will be forever barred from claiming that you are entitled to the benefits of said Act.

Witness, JUDITH C. CUTLER Chief Justice of this Court on January 14, 2014
Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder

1/30/14

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU14P0106EA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: **Uton S. Lewin**
Date of Death: **8/12/03**
Suffolk County Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Donna M Wade of Ossining, NY. Donna M Wade of Ossining, NY has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU13P3061EA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: **Recell Cunningham**
Date of Death: **1/3/11**
Suffolk County Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Maurice Cunningham of Detroit, MI. Maurice Cunningham of Detroit, MI has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No.: SU14P0027EA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: **Thomas R Wood**
Date of Death: **11/11/09**
Suffolk County Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Carolyn Wood of Alton, IL. Carolyn Wood of Alton, IL has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU13P3059EA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: **Jeffrey Scott Roth**
Date of Death: **3/07/2011**
Suffolk County Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Sharon Greminger-Gore of Cleveland, OH. Sharon Greminger-Gore of Cleveland, OH has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU13P3060EA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: **Carrie Lois Yancey**
Date of Death: **3/19/08**
Suffolk County Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Diane Yancey of Auburn, AL. Diane Yancey of Auburn, AL has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU14P0026EA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: **Beverly Fowler Jones**
Date of Death: **12/17/11**
Suffolk County Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner William D Jones, Birmingham, AL. William D Jones, Birmingham, AL has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU14P0104EA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: **Albert R. Grooms**
Date of Death: **12/4/08**
Suffolk County Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Phyllis Friedman of Glenside, PA. Friedman of Glenside, PA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No.: SU13P3058EA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: **Leroy A Bing**
Date of Death: **6/8/2008**
Suffolk County Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioners Nicole Kinsey and Leanora Bing of Philadelphia, PA. Nicole Kinsey and Leanora Bing of Philadelphia, PA have been informally appointed as the Personal Representatives of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representatives under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representatives and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioners

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU14P0026EA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: **Theodis McNish**
Date of Death: **3/26/13**
Suffolk County Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Bridget McNish of Newberry, Fl. Petitioner Bridget McNish of Newberry, Fl has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner

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Legal Notices

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU14P0105EA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: **Edwin Francis Chorak**
Date of Death: **4/27/09**
Suffolk County Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Jeffrey J Chorak of Florence, CO. Jeffrey J Chorak of Florence, CO has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

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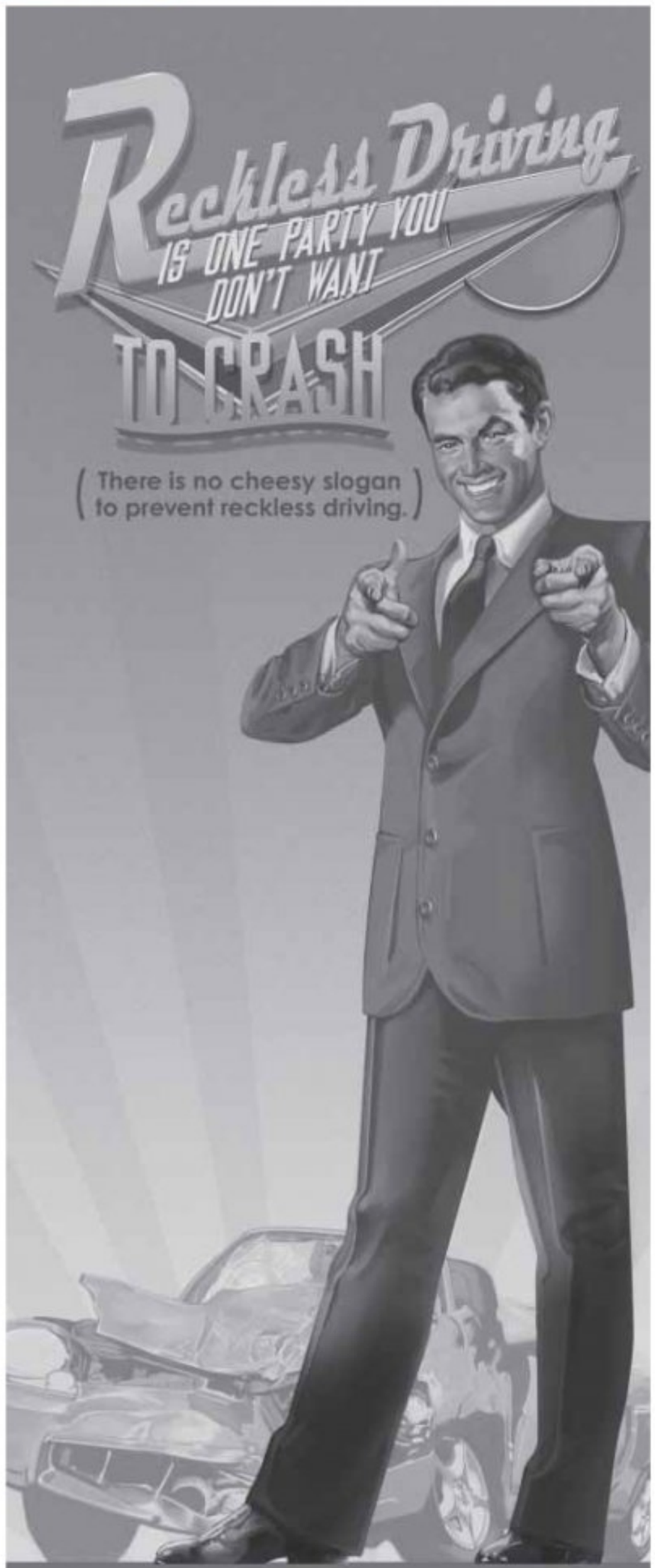

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Space is limited. Register online at hms.harvard.edu/minimedschool or call 617-432-3038.

The 2014 series features:

March 6 **The Eyes Have It: Why and how you see**

There's more to eyes than meets the eye. Our eyes are small machines containing complex circuitry and our understanding of this machinery advances every day. How does the process of vision work? What happens when sight fails – whether it is traced to disease or genetics? In this seminar, faculty experts from Harvard Medical School will explain the complexities behind the eye, the latest research related to vision and eye disorders, and pointers for keeping these important organs healthy.

March 13 **Healthy Mind, Healthy Body: Benefits of exercise**

There is no question that exercise aids weight loss and helps the body grow stronger. A consistent commitment to fitness also improves heart health and boosts energy, among other numerous benefits. No matter your age or ability level, experts agree that regular physical activity is good for your health. At this seminar, learn about the science behind exercise, how it contributes to physical and mental health, as well as tips for maintaining a healthy exercise regimen.

March 20 **Up Close and Personal: Genetics and you**

As technologies improve and costs decrease, genome sequencing at the doctor's office could one day be as common as a cholesterol test. Genetic, or DNA, testing can be a powerful tool for investigating disease and genetic disorders, and it can also reveal information about an individual's ancestry. At the same time, increasing availability of testing raises ethical issues that until recently didn't even exist. Physicians, scientists, and ethicists alike are grappling with the myriad of issues that the unfolding genetic revolution is raising. At this seminar, HMS faculty experts will discuss how and why DNA testing is done, and what this fast-evolving field means for you.

April 10 **Sound and Fury: Understanding post-traumatic stress disorder**

Sometimes after a terrifying event, a person can develop post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD. What are the risk factors, signs and symptoms of this condition? Scientists and clinicians are examining the scientific underpinnings of PTSD in an effort to better understand it and care for patients effectively. A panel of Harvard Medical School faculty members will discuss how it is diagnosed and treated, and share advice for family members and friends who have loved ones coping with the condition.

All mini-med school classes are held from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Joseph B. Martin Conference Center, Harvard Medical School, 77 Avenue Louis Pasteur, Boston. The Conference Center is a short walk from the Longwood T stops on the Green Line D and E trains and the #39 bus. Parking is available at public garages in the Longwood Medical Area.

Questions? Contact the Harvard Medical School Office of Communications and External Relations at longwood_seminars@hms.harvard.edu.

What's up, doc?

FREE mini-med school classes for the general public

March 6, 6:00–7:30 pm
The Eyes Have It
Why and how you see

March 13, 6:00–7:30 pm
Healthy Mind, Healthy Body
Benefits of exercise

March 20, 6:00–7:30 pm
Up Close and Personal
Genetics and you

April 10, 6:00–7:30 pm
Sound and Fury
Understanding post-traumatic stress disorder

Presented by faculty from Harvard Medical School and its affiliated hospitals.

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